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A BRIEF GLOSSARY OF THE MORE COMMON BOTANICAL AND HORTICULTURAL TERMS[1]

aberrant - differing from usual structure, departing from the type; used mostly of variation.

abortive - barren; imperfectly or not developed; as abortive stamens when only filaments are present.

acaulescent - stemless; as in the dandelion.

achene - a small, dry, indehiscent, one-celled and one-seeded fruit; as in the buttercup.

acuminate - having a gradually diminishing point; long pointed.

adnate - grown to, united with another part; stamens adnate to the corolla-tube.

adventitious buds - those produced abnormally as from the stem instead of the axils of the leaves.

adventive - applied to an introduced plant, not definitely established or naturalized.

alate - winged; furnished with an expansion, as found on the stem or petiole.

ament - a catkin; a spike of flowers usually bracteate and frequently deciduous, as the male flowers of willow, birch, beech and oak.

androecium - the male or stamen bearing part of the flower. See also **gynoecium.**

[1]This glossary is merely a selective compilation of the more common technical terms used in horticultural literature and is recorded here as an aid to horticulturists and amateur gardeners who do not have easy access to the many well prepared glossaries already in existence. The works of many authors have been utilized, among them L.H.Bailey, A.Gray, B.D.Jackson, A.Rehder, A.B. Stout, et al.

angiosperms - plants having their seeds enclosed in an ovary. See also **gymnosperms.**

anther - the pollen bearing part of the flower.

anthesis - flowering; strictly the time of expansion of a flower; often used to designate the flowering period.

apetalous - without petals; as in willows.

apomictic hybrid - hybrid which can be reproduced true to type from seed, which develops without fertilization.

appressed - lying flat and close against.

articulate - jointed; having a node or joint where separation may take place naturally.

asexual - destitute of male or female organs;

asexual reproduction - reproduction produced vegetatively; without the aid of sexual organs.

attenuate - tapering slenderly; applied usually to the apex of a leaf.

auriculate - furnished with ear-shaped appendages (auricles), as the base of a petal or leaf.

awl-shaped - tapering from the base to a slender or stiff point.

awn - a bristle-like appendage.

axil - the upper angle formed by a leaf or branch with the stem.

axillary - situated in the axil.

baccate - berry-like; pulpy or fleshy as in the gooseberry.

barb - hooked hair, frequently doubly hooked.

barbellate - finely barbed.

basifixed - attached or fixed by the base.

beaked - ending in a beak or prolonged tip.

bearded - furnished with a tuft of hairs.

berry - an indehiscent fruit developing from a single ovary, having few to many seeds and a fleshy or pulpy outer wall; as the tomato or gooseberry. See also **drupe** and **pome.**

bi or **bis** - Latin prefix signifying two or twice.

bicolored - two-colored.

biennial - a plant which requires two years to complete its life-cycle; as the hollyhock.

bifid - two cleft.

bifoliolate - a leaf composed of two leaflets.

bigener (bigeneric hybrid) - plant hybrid resulting from a cross between two genera.

bilabiate - two-lipped; as in flowers of *Salvia.*

bilocular - two-celled.

binomial - the combination of a generic and specific name to denote a given organism; as *Acer rubrum*.

biotype - an elementary stable form.

bipinnate - twice pinnate; when the divisions of a pinnate leaf are again pinnately divided.

bisexual - having both stamens and pistils.

blade - the expanded portion of a leaf.

bloom - (1) See blossom. (2) The white waxy or pruinose covering of many fruits and leaves.

blossom - the flower, more often applied to those of fruit trees.

bract - a much reduced leaf, particularly the small or scale-like leaves in a flower-cluster or associated with the flowers.

bracteate - having bracts.

bracteolate - having bractlets.

bractlet - bract borne on a secondary axis, as on the pedicel.

breed - a group of plants having distinctive qualities in common, which, developed through the influence of man, requires control by man to prevent mixtures with other groups; does not imply directly traceable descent from any particular plant and may be propagated from seed.

bristle - stiff hair.

bud - the nascent state of a flower, leaf or branch.

bud mutation - an abnormal shoot, (caused by genetical change) which can be propagated only asexually.

bud-scale - covering of a bud.

bud-sport - same as bud-mutation.

bud-variation - same as bud-mutation.

bulb - a modified bud with fleshy scales, usually underground.

bulbil - a diminutive bulb.

bullate - blistered or puckered; as the leaf in Savoy cabbage.

bush - a low, several-to many-stemmed shrub, without distinct trunk.

caducous - falling off early.

callus - a hard prominence or protuberance; in a cutting or on a severed or injured part, the roll of new covering tissue.

calyx - the outer perianth of the flower.

campanulate - bell-shaped.

canescent - gray-pubescent and hoary.

capitate - head-like; collected in a dense cluster.

capsule - a dry fruit of more than one carpel, opening at maturity.

carinate - keeled.

carpel - a simple pistil or a member of a compound pistil.

catkin - a deciduous spike of unisexual, apetalous flowers. See **ament.**

caudate - having a slender, tail-like appendage.

caudex - the main axis of a plant, including both stem and root.

caulescent - more or less stem-bearing; having an evident stem above ground.

cauline - belonging to the stem, as cauline leaves.

cell - one of the minute compartments or vesicles of which plants are composed or made up; also a cavity of an anther or ovary.

cespitose (or **caespitose**) - growing in tufts; forming mats.

channeled - deeply grooved longitudinally.

chartaceous - having the texture of stiff writing paper.

chimera - graft hybrid exhibiting characters of both the stock and the scion, caused by the fusion of tissues of both;

periclinal chimera - one in which the cells of one have grown completely around the cells of the other;

sectoral chimera - chimera in which the two different cell masses merge but one does not completely encircle the other.

chlorophyll - the green coloring matter within the cells of plants.

choripetalous - having separate petals; polypetalous. See also **gamopetalous.**

ciliate - fringed with hairs.

ciliolate - minutely ciliate.

cinereous - ash-colored, light gray.

circumscissile - opening or dehiscing by a regular transverse line of division.

clavate - club-shaped; said of a long body thickened toward the top.

cleistogamous - closed self-fertilized flowers; as in some violets.

clon - a group of plants composed of individuals produced vegetatively from a single original plant; clons differ from races and strains in failing to come true from seeds; examples: Concord-grape, Baldwin-apple.

coalescence - the union of similar parts or organs, or of those in the same series as stamens with stamens and petals with petals.

coalescent - two or more similar parts united.

columnar - having the shape of a column.

compost - a soil mixture containing balanced plant requirements.

compound - of two or more similar parts united into one whole;

compound-leaf - one divided into separate leaflets.

conifer - cone bearing (not synonymous with evergreen).

connate - joined in one organ.

connective - the portion of the stamen which connects the cells of the anther.

cordate - heart-shaped; usually referring to the base of the leaf.

corolla - the inner series of floral envelopes consisting either of connate or distinct petals.

corm - the enlarged fleshy base of a stem, bulb-like but solid, as in gladiolus.

corymb - a flat-topped or convex flowering cluster with the outer flowers opening first. See also **cyme.**

costa - a rib; the midrib or middle-nerve of a leaf.

cotyledon - the primary leaf or leaves in the embryo.

creeper - a trailing shoot that produces roots at intervals.

crenate - toothed with rounded, shallow teeth.

cross - hybrid of any description.

cross-fertilization - fertilization secured by pollen from the flower of another plant.

cross-pollination - transfer of the pollen of one flower to the pistil of another.

crustaceous - having a hard or brittle covering.

culm - the stem of grasses and sedges.

cultigen - a plant, group, or series known only in cultivation. See also **indigen.**

cultivar - so-called "horticultural variety" or "garden variety". Progeny of a clon, chimera, or the result of selective hybridization, which is known only in cultivation and may or may not be reproduced from seed. The name, usually selected by the propagator, appended to either a generic name or a binomial, should be set off by different type or included within quotations to distinguish it from the binomial of a natural species. Examples: *Syringa* Congo or Syringa **Congo;** Malus "Bob-White"; Deutzia scabra "Pride of Rochester".

cuneate - wedge-shaped; triangular with narrow end at point of attachment.

cupular - cup-like or cup-shaped.

cupule - cup of such fruits as the acorn.

cuspidate - sharp-pointed.

cutting - a severed vegetative or asexual part of a plant used in propagation; as a cutting of root, of stem, or of leaf.

cyme - a convex or flat flower-cluster with the central flowers opening first. See also **corymb.**

cymose - arranged in cymes; cyme-like.

cytology - the branch of biology which treats of cells, especially of their internal structure.

damping off - collapse of seedlings usually ascribed to the attack of fungi.

deciduous - falling, not persistent, as the leaves of non-evergreen trees.

decompound - more than once compound.

decumbent - reclining or lying on the ground but with the ends ascending.

decurrent (leaf) - extending down the stem below the insertion.

decussate - opposite leaves in four rows up and down the stem; alternating in pairs at right angles.

defoliation - the casting or falling off of leaves.

dehiscence - the method or process of opening of a seed-pod or anther. See also **indehiscent.**

deltoid - triangular; delta-like.

dentate - with more or less spreading teeth.

di, dis - Greek prefix signifying two or twice.

diadelphous - in two groups, as the stamens of some *Leguminosae*, joined by their filaments.

diandrous - with two stamens.

dichotomous - forked regularly in pairs.

dicotyledons (dicots) - plants having two cotyledons or seed-lobes; see also **monocotyledons.**

diffuse - loosely or widely spreading.

digitate - with the members rising at one point.

dimorphous - occurring in two forms.

dioecious - staminate and pistillate flowers on different plants. See also **monoecious.**

dissected - divided into many narrow segments.

dissipiment - a partition in an ovary or fruit.

distichous - disposed in two vertical ranks, as the florets in many grasses.

divaricate - spreading, widely divergent.

divided - separated to the base.

dorsal - relating to the back or outer surface of an organ.

drupe - a fleshy indehiscent fruit with a bony, usually one-seeded endocarp; like the cherry or peach.

e or **ex** - Latin prefix usually denoting parts are missing, as **ebracteate** or **exstipulate** meaning without bracts or without stipules.

ellipsoid - a solid body, elliptic in section.
elliptic - a flat part or body that is oval and narrowed to rounded ends.
emarginate - with a shallow notch at the apex.
embryo - the rudimentary plantlet within the seed.
endemic - native or local.
epigynous - borne on the top of the ovary. See also **hypogynous** and **perigynous**.
epiphytic - growing on other plants but not parasitic.
ericoid - of leaves which are like those of heaths.
escape - a cultivated plant found growing as though wild, dispersed by some agency.
espalier - a fruit tree trained lattice-fashion in one plane.
evergreen - remaining green throughout the year as pines and some rhododendrons. Does not necessarily refer to cone-bearing plants. See also **deciduous**.
excurrent - with a projecting tip, as the nerve of a leaf projecting beyond the margin; the trunk of a tree with undivided main stem, as in the fir.
exfoliating - peeling off in thin layers; as the bark of the birch.
exotic - foreign, not native.
exserted - prolonged beyond the surrounding organs, as stamens from the corolla.
exsiccatae - dried, pressed specimens.
exstipulate - without stipules.
eye - the marked center of a flower; a bud on a tuber, as on the potato; a single-bud cutting.

falcate - sickle-shaped.
fasciated - an abnormal widening and flattening of the stem or branches.
fascicle - a dense cluster.
fastigiate - with close, and erect branches, as in the Lombardy poplar.
ferrugineous - rust-colored.
fertile - capable of producing fruit and seeds; also said of pollen-bearing anthers.
fertilization - effect of pollen deposited on a stigmatic surface resulting in conversion of flower into fruit and of ovule into seed.
filament - stalk of the anther.
filiform - thread-like; long and very slender.
fimbriate - fringed.
flaccid - not rigid; lax and weak.

floccose - clothed with tufts of soft hair or wool.

florets - small individual flowers of compact heads or spikes.

floriferous - flower-bearing, usually in the sense of abundantly flowering.

foliaceous - leaf-like in texture or appearance; said particularly of sepals and calyx-lobes and of bracts that in texture, size or color look like small or large leaves.

-foliate - in combinations, -leaved; having leaves; as tri-foliate, *three-leaved*, as the stem of trillium. Often confused with trifoliolate.

-foliolate - having leaflets; as trifoliolate, *of three leaflets*.

follicle - dry, dehiscent pericarp opening only along one suture; as the milkweed or peony.

form - sub-division of a variety or species usually differing in one character and usually perpetuated vegetatively.

frond - leaf of fern; sometimes used in the sense of foliage.

fructiferous - producing or bearing fruit.

fructification - the act or process of fruiting; also the fruiting organ.

fruit - the seed-bearing product of a plant.

frutescent - nearly shrubby.

fruticose - shrubby; with woody persistent stems and branches.

fugacious - falling or withering away very early.

funnelform - said of a corolla with the tube gradually widening upward; as in the morning-glory.

furrowed - with longitudinal channels or grooves.

fusiform - spindle-shaped; narrowed toward both ends from a swollen middle; as in the roots of the dahlia.

gamopetalous - having the petals more or less united. See also **choripetalous** and **polypetalous.**

gamosepalous - calyx of one piece; sepals united.

geniculate - bent abruptly like a knee.

germination - the development of the plantlet from the seed.

glabrate - nearly glabrous or becoming glabrous with age.

glabrous - not hairy.

gladiate - sword-shaped or sword-like.

gland - a definite secreting structure on the surface embedded in or ending a hair; also any protuberance of the like nature which may not secrete, as the warty swellings at the base of the leaf in the cherry and peach.

glandular - bearing glands or gland-like appendages.

glaucous - covered with a bloom; bluish white or bluish gray.

glochidiate - barbed; tipped with barbs.
glomerate - in compact clusters.
glume - a chaff-like bract; particularly one of two empty bracts at the base of the spikelet in grasses.
gourd - a fleshy one-celled many-seeded fruit; like the melon.
graft - a branch or bud inserted on another plant with the intention that it will grow there; a scion.
graft-hybrid - plant showing influences of scion and stock caused by mechanical union of the tissues. See **chimera.**
grafting - the process of inserting a scion in a plant (stock) with the intention that the tissues of both shall unite and that the stock shall furnish the nourishment for the growth of the scion.
granular, granulose - composed of or appearing as covered by minute grains.
gymno - in Greek compounds, signifying naked or not covered.
gymnosperms - plants with uncovered ovules, as the conifers; see also **angiosperms.**
gynoecium - the female or pistil-bearing part of the flower. See also **androecium.**

habit - the general aspect of a plant, or its mode of growth.
hastate - halberd-shaped; like an arrowhead but with the basal lobes pointing outward nearly at right angles.
head - a dense cluster or short dense spike of sessile or nearly sessile flowers.
heel - an enlarged or more or less transverse part on the lower end of a cutting secured from the older or larger branch from which the cutting is taken.
heliotropism - the characteristic of turning toward the light.
herb - a plant not woody, at least above ground.
herbaceous - of the texture of an herb; not woody.
heterogen - group of plants heterozygous from hybridity or mutation among which there are several phenotypes. Individuals here may be propagated as clons, or cultivars may be segregated by selective breeding. Example: Japanese azalea.
heteromorphous - parts of different shape.
heterophyllous - with two sorts of leaves.
hip - the fruit of the rose.
hirsute - with rather coarse or stiff hairs.
hirtellous - minutely hirsute.
hispid - beset with rigid hairs or bristles.

hispidulous - diminutive of hispid.

homo - in Greek compound, all alike or of one sort.

homogamous - bearing only one kind of flowers.

horny - hard and dense in texture.

host - a plant which nourishes a parasite.

humus - decomposing organic matter in the soil.

humus soils - garden soils enriched with organic manure.

hyaline - transparent or nearly so.

hybrid - a plant resulting from a cross between two or more parents that are more or less unlike.

hybridization - (1) the art of obtaining hybrids by artificial crossing; (2) also used for the same operation occurring naturally.

hydrophytes - water plants, partially or wholly immersed.

hygrophytes - marsh plants, or plants which need a large supply of moisture for growth.

hypanthium - the cup-shaped or tubular receptacle on which the perianth and the stamens are inserted; as in the flower of the cherry.

hypogynous - borne on the receptacle beneath the ovary; said of stamens and petals. See also **epigynous** and **perigynous.**

imbricate - overlapping, as shingles on a roof; as the bud-scales of horse-chestnuts and azaleas.

impari-pinnate - pinnate with a single leaflet at the apex; odd-pinnate. See also **pari-pinnate.**

imperfect flower - having either stamens or pistils, but not both. See also **perfect flower.**

inarching - grafting by approach, the scion remaining attached to its parent, until union has taken place.

incanescent - hoary or gray-pubescent.

incised - cut sharply into the margin.

indehiscent - not opening by valves or along regular lines. See also **dehiscent.**

indigen - a plant of known origin growing spontaneously or in cultivation. See also **cultigen.**

indigenous - original to the country, not introduced.

indumentum - any covering, as hairiness.

inferior ovary - one that is below the perianth. See also **superior ovary.**

inflorescence - disposition of the flowers on the floral axis.

infructescence - the inflorescence in a fruiting stage.

infundibuliform - funnel-shaped.

insectivorous - used of those plants which capture insects and absorb nutriment from them.
insertion - mode or place where one body is attached to its support.
integument - covering of a body or organ; envelope of an ovule.
internode - the space or portion of stem between two nodes.
introduced - used of plants which have been brought from another country; exotic.
involucre - a whorl or set of bracts around a flower, umbel or head, etc., as in the heads of composites and the flowering dogwood.
involute - having the edges of the leaves rolled inwards.
irregular flower - some parts different from other parts of the same whorl; usually applied to zygomorphous flowers.

keel - a projecting ridge on a surface, like the keel of a boat; the two front petals of a papilionaceous corolla.
key or **key fruit** - a winged-fruit, like in the maples; samara.
knee - an abrupt bend in a stem or tree-trunk; an outgrowth of some tree-roots.

labellum - lip, particularly the odd petal in orchids.
lacerate - with margins appearing as if torn.
laciniate - cut into deep narrow lobes.
lactescent - producing milky juice; as in the milkweeds.
laevigate - smooth, as if polished.
lanate, lanose - woolly, clothed with soft entangled hairs.
lanceolate - lance-shaped, about four times long as broad and broadest below or about the middle.
lanuginose, lanuginous - woolly or cottony; with long and interwoven hairs.
latex - the milky juice of such plants as the milkweed.
latifoliate, latifolious - broad-leaved.
leaching - losing material by percolation, as rain washing away nutriment through the soil.
leader - the primary or terminal shoot of a tree.
leaf - the principal appendage or lateral organ borne by the stem or axis. **Simple-leaf** - when undivided, **compound-leaf** - when divided into distinct parts.
leaf-scar - the mark or cicatrix left by the fall of a leaf.
leaf-stalk - the stem of a leaf, petiole.
leaflet - the separate division of a compound-leaf.
legume - seed vessel or pod of the pea or bean family, usually dehiscing by both sutures.

lemma - the lower of the two bracts enclosing the flower in the grasses.

lenticel - lens-shaped spots on young bark corresponding to the stomata on the leaf.

lepidote - with small scurfy scales.

liana, liane - a woody climbing or twining plant.

ligneous - woody.

ligule - the strap-shaped corolla in the ray florets of composites; the membranous appendage at the summit of the leaf-sheaths of most grasses.

linear - long and narrow with nearly parallel margins.

lip - the principal lobes of a bilabiate corolla or calyx.

loam - combination of clay with enough sand to counteract the cohering property of the clay; usually implies the presence of considerable decomposed organic matter with accompanying fertility.

lobed - divided into or bearing lobes.

loculicidal - dehiscent on the back of the cells of a capsule. See also **septicidal.**

lyrate - pinnatifid with a large terminal lobe and small basal lobes.

macro - in Greek compounds meaning long, large, or great.

maculate - blotched or spotted.

male (flowers or plants) - having stamens but no pistils.

marcescent - withering but not falling off.

midrib - the central vein or rib of a leaf; costa.

monadelphous - stamens united in one group by their filaments.

moniliform - resembling a string of beads like the legume in *Sophora*.

mono - in Greek compounds meaning one.

monocotyledons (monocots) - plants having one cotyledon or seed-lobe, as lilies and grasses; see also **dicotyledons.**

monoecious - with unisexual flowers of both sexes on the same plant. See **dioecious.**

muck - any kind of impure or decayed peat or black swamp earth, especially when used as manure.

mucronate - tipped with a short abrupt point or mucro.

mulch - strawy dung or any other material, as leaves etc. spread on the surface of ground to protect the roots of newly planted shrub or tree.

mule - an old word for a cross, particularly between different species; hybrid; cross-breed; usually an infertile hybrid.

multiple fruit - the united product (in one body) of several or many

flowers; as the pineapple or mulberry. See also **syncarp.**

muricate - roughened with short hard points.

mutation - variation derived by sudden changes in seedlings. See also **bud-mutation.**

naked flower - a flower without perianth.

nectary - a place or organ where sugar or nectar is secreted.

nerve - a slender rib or vein, particularly if unbranched.

node - the place upon the stem which normally bears a leaf or leaves.

nut - an indehiscent one-seeded hard and bony fruit.

ob - Latin prefix usually signifying inversion.

oblanceolate - inversely lanceolate; with the broadest part of a lanceolate body away from the point of attachment.

oblique - slanting; unequal sided.

oblong - at least twice as broad as long.

obovate - inverted ovate.

obtuse - blunt, rounded.

odd-pinnate - see **impari-pinnate.**

offset - a plant arising close to the base of the mother plant.

oleaginous - oily and fleshy.

oligo - in Greek compounds meaning few.

opaque - applied to a surface means dull, not shiny.

orbicular - circular; rounded in outline.

ortet - the original plant from which a clon is derived.

ovary - that part of the pistil containing the ovules or future seeds.

ovate - having an outline like that of a hen's egg.

palea - the upper bract which with the lemma encloses the flower in grasses.

paleaceous - chaffy.

palmate (leaf) - radiately lobed or divided with three or more veins arising from one point.

panicle - a compound, usually loose flower-cluster, longer than broad as a branched raceme or corymb.

pannose - covered with a felt of woolly hair.

papilionaceous - butterfly-shaped; applied to such a corolla as that of the pea.

papillose - bearing minute nipple-shaped protuberances.

pappus - peculiar calyx-limb of composites, being plumose, bristle-like, scales or otherwise.

parasite - organism which grows on and derives nourishment from another plant, the host.

parietal - borne on or pertaining to the wall of a fruit.

pari-pinnate - pinnate with an even number of leaflets. See also **impari-pinnate.**

parted, partite - cleft nearly but not quite to the base.

parthenogenesis - producing seed without fertilization.

peat - carbonaceous substance formed by partial decomposition in water of various plants especially sphagnum; used as fertilizer or mulch.

pedicel - the stalk of a flower.

pedicellate - borne on a pedicel.

peduncle - the stalk of a flower-cluster; also used for the stalk of a solitary flower.

pedunculate - borne on a peduncle.

peltate - shield-shaped; attached to its stalk inside the margin, like the leaf of nasturtium (*Tropaeolum*) and nelumbium.

penninerved - nerves arising along a central midrib.

pentamerous - in fives.

pepo - a hard-rinded berry of the gourd family such as pumpkin, squash, etc.

perennial - of three or more seasons duration.

perfect flower - having both stamens and pistils; bi-sexual. See also **imperfect flower.**

peri - Greek prefix meaning around.

perianth - the floral envelope; commonly used when there is no clear distinction between calyx and corolla; as in the lilies.

pericarp - the wall of the ripened ovary.

perigynous - borne around the ovary and not at its base, as in flowers of cherry, where the perianth and stamens are borne on a cup-shaped hypanthium. See also **epigynous** and **hypogynous.**

persistent - remaining attached, not falling off; opposite of deciduous.

petal - one of the separate leaves of the corolla.

petiole - leaf-stalk.

petiolule - stalk of a leaflet.

phenotype - biotype of mixed individuals having like external characters but of unlike germinal composition.

pilose - with long straight hairs.

pinnate (leaf) - compound with the leaflets placed on each side of a rachis. See also **impari-pinnate** and **pari-pinnate.**

pinnatifid - cleft or divided in a pinnate way.

pistil - the seed-bearing organ of a flower consisting of ovary, style and stigma.
pistillate - having a pistil and no stamens.
placenta - part of the ovary which bears the ovules.
platy - Greek prefix meaning broad.
pleio - Greek prefix for full or abounding, or many.
plicate - folded into plaits.
plumose - feathery.
pluri - Latin prefix meaning many.
pod - a dry dehiscent fruit.
pollen - the fertilizing powder contained in the anthers.
poly - Greek prefix meaning many.
polycotyledonous - having several cotyledons.
polygamous - bearing unisexual and bisexual flowers on the same plant.
polypetalous - having separate petals; choripetalous. See also **gamopetalous.**
pome - a fleshy fruit like the apple and pear.
procumbent - trailing on the ground.
prickle - spine-like outgrowth from bark or epidermis.
pruinose - covered with a waxy, powdery secretion on the surface; a bloom.
pruning - artificial removal of twigs or branches from trees, shrubs, etc.
pseudo - Greek prefix for false, as **pseudo-bulb.**
puberulent, puberulous - minutely pubescent.
pubescent - covered with hairs, particularly if short and soft.
pulvinate - cushioned.
punctate - with translucent or colored dots or depressions.
pungent - prickly-tipped as in the holly; acrid.
pyrene - a seed-like nutlet or stone of a small drupe.
pyriform - pear-shaped.

quadri - Latin prefix meaning four; as **quadrangular** - four angled; **quadrifoliate** - four-leaved; **quadrifid** - four-cleft.
quaternate - in fours.
quinate - in fives.
quinque - Latin prefix meaning five; as **quinquelocular** - five-celled.

race - a permanent variety, or group of individuals whose distinguishing characters are constant and are reproduced true to type from seed.

raceme - a simple inflorescence of stalked flowers on a more or less elongated axis.

racemose - in racemes or resembling a raceme.

rachis - an axis bearing flowers or leaflets.

radiate - spreading from a common center; with ray-flowers.

ramet - any individual of a clon.

ray - the margin portion of a composite flower when distinct from the disk.

receptacle - the more or less expanded portion of an axis which bears the organs of a flower or the collected flowers of a head.

recurved - curved downward or backward.

reflexed - abruptly turned downward.

reniform - kidney-shaped.

repand - with a slightly sinuate margin.

reticulate - in the form of a network; net-veined.

retuse - slightly notched at the rounded apex.

revolute - rolled backward.

rhachis - see **rachis.**

rib - a primary or prominent vein in a leaf.

rostrate - beaked.

rufous - reddish brown.

rugose - wrinkled.

runcinate - coarsely saw-toothed or cut, the pointed teeth turned toward the base of the leaf; as in the dandelion.

runner - a slender and prostrate branch, rooting at the end or at the joint.

saccate - sac-shaped.

sagittate - shaped like an arrow-head, the basal lobes directed downward.

salver-shaped (flower) - with a slender tube abruptly expanded into a flat limb.

samara - an indehiscent winged fruit; see **key.**

scabrous - rough to the touch.

scale - a minute leaf or bract, usually appressed or dry.

scandent - climbing.

scape - a peduncle rising from the ground, naked or without proper foliage.

scarious - thin and dry, not green.

scion - a slip or shoot used for grafting; see **graft.**

scorpioid - coiled (ring-like) while in bud.

scrobiculate - pitted.

seed - the ripened ovule consisting of the embryo and its integuments.

sepal - a division of the calyx.

separation - multiplication of plants by means of naturally detachable asexual bodies or organs, as offsets, stolons.

septicidal - dehiscing along or in the partitions. See also **loculicidal.**

septifragal - where the valves in dehiscence break away from the partitions.

septum - a partition.

serrate - having teeth pointing forward.

serrulate - serrate with fine teeth.

sessile - without any stalk.

setaceous - bristle-like.

setose - beset with bristles.

sheath - a tubular envelope, as the lower part of the leaf in grasses.

shrub - a woody plant branched from the base.

sinuate - with the outlines of the margin strongly wavy.

sinus - the recess between lobes, as in the leaves of some oaks.

slip - a softwood cutting "slipped" off or pulled off; applied also to similar parts cut off.

spadix - a spike with a fleshy axis.

spathe - a large bract or pair of bracts inclosing the inflorescence; like Jack-in-the-pulpit.

spathulate - gradually narrowed from a rounded summit.

species - a natural botanical unit; composed of individuals which exhibit characters distinguishing them from all other units within a genus, still not differing from one another beyond the limits of individual diversity.

spicate - arranged in or resembling a spike.

spike - a simple inflorescence with the flowers sessile or nearly so on a common axis.

spine - a sharp-pointed woody outgrowth from the stem.

sport - a variation starting from a bud or seed.

spur - any projecting appendage of a flower, looking like a spur but hollow; like in larkspur.

stamen - the pollen-bearing male organ of a flower.

staminode, staminodium - a sterile stamen or similar structure inserted between the corolla and the pistil.

standard - the upper broad petal of a papilionaceous flower.

stellate - star-shaped; where several similar parts spread out from a common center, like a star.

stem - the axis or axes of a plant arising from its root.

sterile - barren; not fertile.

stigma - the part of the pistil that receives the pollen.

stipe - the stalk of a pistil.

stipitate - having a stipe.

stipule - an appendage at the base of the petiole, usually one on each side.

stock - the part on which the scion is grafted; the strain or parentage.

stolon - a subterranean stem.

stoloniferous - bearing stolons.

stoma (pl. **stomata**) or **stomate** - a breathing pore in the epidermis of the leaf leading into an intercellular space communicating with the internal tissue.

stool - a clump of roots or rootstalk that may be used in propagation; also an established low plant from which layers are taken.

strain - a group of plants differing from the race to which it belongs by no apparent morphological characters, but by some enhanced or improved physiological tendency propagated from seed; as heavier yield in fruit.

stratification - the operation or method of burying seeds to keep them fresh and to soften their integuments, or to expose them without injury to cold temperatures, that they may be more readily and successfully germinated.

striate - marked with fine longitudinal lines.

strict - very straight and upright.

strigose - beset with appressed straight and stiff hairs.

strike - to emit roots as from a cutting.

strobile - an inflorescence marked by imbricated bracts or scales; as in the pine-cone.

style - a stalk between the ovary and stigma.

subulate - awl-shaped.

succulent - fleshy; juicy.

sucker - a shoot arising from the roots or beneath the surface of the ground.

suffrutescent - slightly woody; woody at the base.

suffruticose - perennial plant with only the lower part of the stem and of the branches woody and persistent.

sulcate - grooved or furrowed.

superior ovary - borne above the insertion of the perianth and free from it. See also **inferior ovary.**

suture - a line of splitting.

syncarp - a fleshy aggregate fruit.

tendril - a coiling thread-like organ by which a plant grasps an object for support.
teratology - the subject of monstrosities, or of abnormal and aberrant forms and malformations.
terete - circular in cross section.
ternate - in threes.
testa - the outer seed-coat.
tetra - Greek prefix meaning four; **tetragonal** - four-angled; **tetragonous** - with four pistils or styles; **tetramerous** - with its parts or sets in fours; **tetrandous** - with four stamens.
tetradynamous - six stamens, four long and two short.
throat - the place where the limb of the corolla joins the corolla-tube.
thyrse - a compact narrow panicle.
tomentose - dense woolly pubescence.
tomentum - dense covering of matted hairs.
tortuous - twisted or bent.
tree - a woody plant with one main stem, and at least four to five meters tall.
tri - Latin prefix signifying three or thrice, as **trifoliolate** - with three leaflets.
truncate - the end nearly straight across; as the apex of the leaf in the tulip-tree.
tuber - a thickened portion of a subterranean stem or branch, provided with eyes (buds) on the sides.
tumid - swollen.
turbinate - top-shaped; inversely conical.
type - individual plant or part of plant (prepared and preserved) from which the description of a genus, species, variety, etc., has been prepared and upon which the scientific name has been based.

umbel - an inflorescence with pedicels or branches arising at the same point and of nearly equal length.
undulate - wavy surface or margin.
uni - in compound words meaning one.
unisexual - of one sex, either staminate or pistillate.
urceolate - urn- shaped.
utricle - a small bladder; a bladdery one-seeded fruit.

vaginate - sheathed, or surrounded by a sheath.

valvate - opening by valves; meeting by the edges without overlapping as leaves or petals in the bud.

variety (as a botanical unit) - a sub-division of the species composed of individuals differing from other members of the species in certain minor characters which are usually perpetuated through generations by seed.

vascular - with vessels or ducts.

veins - the small ribs or branches of the framework of leaves.

velutinous - velvety.

venation - arrangement of veins.

ventral - relating to the inner surface or part of an organ; the part nearer the axis.

ventricose - swelling unequally, or inflated on one side.

vernation - the arrangement of leaves in the bud.

verrucose - covered with wart-like elevations.

versatile - relating to an anther attached near the middle and moving freely on its support.

verticillate - disposed in a whorl.

villous - bearing long and soft, usually curved or curly, hairs.

viscid - glutinous; sticky.

whorl - the arrangement of three or more like organs in a circle around the axis.

wing - any membranous expansion.

woolly - clothed with long and entangled soft hairs.

zygomorphic - said of a flower which can be bisected only in one plane in similar halves.

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